

# JOSEPHINE McCRACKEN

*Preserved the Redwoods*



Josephine McCracken wielded a mighty pen and inspired others worldwide to share her concern. She wrote tirelessly in the *Santa Cruz Sentinel* and the *Overland Monthly* about her passion: saving California's unique giant redwoods and their forest wildlife.



McCracken and photographer Andrew P. Hill founded the Sempervirens Club and through their mutual efforts, Big Basin Redwoods became California's first state park in 1902. Today, nearly 85 million people a year enjoy California's 277 state parks. Big Basin — McCracken's legacy — draws one million visitors annually.

